

Washington, D.C. – Today, Congressman John Olver delivered the following remarks on the House Floor:
"We often hear that America has the best health care system in the world.
But, cold hard facts don't agree.
Between 1997 and 2002 when researchers compared preventable deaths – from diabetes, cancer and heart disease among others – in 19 industrialized countries, the United States placed last. Dead last!
75,000 lives could have been saved had the United States achieved just the average preventable death rate of its counterparts.
Since 2002, another 75,000 deaths could have been prevented.
The Affordable Health Care For America Act, will reduce preventable deaths.
<ul> <li>HR 3962 completely bans pre-existing condition exclusions by 2013 and;</li> <li>Ends copays and deductibles for preventive care under Medicare and Medicaid.</li> <li>And HR 3962 will train many more primary care providers and pay them better for their service.</li> </ul>
Our current health care system is failing us.
We need health reform now!"